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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS BULLETIN: Freedom Convoy 2022

DATE: 2022-JAN-26

FILE #: RM2015478

INTRODUCTION

The bulletin is intended to provide situational awareness to law enforcement in relation to events associated to the Freedom Convoy 2022.

BACKGROUND

Nationally organized convoys, involving commercial transport truck drivers and passenger vehicles, will be travelling through parts of Ontario commencing 2022-JAN-26, destined for Ottawa, where an event is scheduled for 2022-JAN-29.

Once in Ottawa, Freedom Convoy 2022 organizers have stated an intent to remain at Parliament Hill until the Federal government concedes to repeal all COVID-19 public health restrictions and mandates. Organizers have indicated they are planning to stage disruptions that may gridlock areas around Parliament buildings and parts of Ottawa. There is no expressed departure date for when participants will disperse or the action will end.

CURRENT SITUATION

A number of convoys are anticipated to mobilize in Ontario on 2022-JAN-27, which may impede traffic flow on major highways that lead to Kingston and Ottawa. Solidarity slow-rolling convoys are also anticipated in several municipalities which may cause delays as well. Supporters have been encouraged to assemble at bridges and overpasses along the convoy routes.

Information shared through social media has indicated some convoy participants and supporters may attempt to disrupt the business of government by holding events at or near City Halls, Provincial government facilities, offices and/or properties. Public Health Units, mainstream media outlets, and law enforcement facilities may also become vulnerable to protest activities consistent with ongoing anti-mandate and anti-government organizing.

CONSIDERATIONS

Events, actions, and incidents associated to the Freedom Convoy 2022 may create the following situations:

- Delayed travel for commuters
- Possible disruptions and confrontations – these may relate to where some anti-mandate adherents refuse to comply with ROA restrictions – particularly around mask and COVID-19 vaccination requirements for entering facilities, retail, and dining.
- Possible protests or rallies convening on Ontario government facilities, offices and/or properties.
- Involvement from ideologically motivated extremists who maintain strong anti-government views
- Involvement from ideologically motivated extremists who espouse sovereign citizen ideals.
- Individuals or small groups who may seek to escalate actions beyond what is peaceful and lawful.
- Public order events

ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATION

Officers are encouraged to report any suspicious activity from individuals travelling with the convoy, as well as, heavy equipment or items that could be used to form a tactical posture. Officers are asked to maintain situational awareness of the Freedom Convoy 2022, and the possibility of heightened tensions arising from where ideologies may conflict around support for the movement.

Please forward all information to:

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

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